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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 2, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 23 totaled an estimated 18.2 billion ton-miles, 27.5 percent above the corresponding week of 1984, which included the Thanksgiving Day holiday, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 47 weeks of 1985 was an estimated 806.8 billion ton-miles, down 3.8 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 23 totaled 396,583, up 32.1 percent from the holiday week last year, and 2.3 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 61.6 percent in the East, 36.4 percent in the South and 14.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 19 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Twelve of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 16 totaled 91,493 trailers and/or containers, 2.1 percent above the corresponding week of 1984.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 46 weeks of the year was 4,011,795 trailers and/or containers, down 1.6 percent from 1984.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/23/85:

	Loadings in Week ended November 23, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	29,302	I	4,578	18.5	D	1,786	5.7
Other farm products	3,976	D	156	3.8	D	682	14.6
Metallic ores	14,898	I	3,015	25.4	D	146	1.0
Coal	119,830	I	35,855	42.7	I	9,307	8.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,393	I	4,127	49.9	D	477	3.7
Nonmetallic minerals	10,904	I	3,863	54.9	I	481	4.6
Grain mill products	10,358	I	1,852	21.8	D	63	0.6
Food and kindred products	11,443	I	2,880	33.6	I	482	4.4
Primary forest products	11,373	I	2,147	23.3	D	298	2.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,013	I	1,923	37.8	I	310	4.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,808	D	599	4.5	D	56	0.4
Chemicals and allied products	23,400	I	3,797	19.4	I	322	1.4
Petroleum products	4,518	I	830	22.5	I	73	1.6
Stone, clay and glass products	9,368	I	1,358	17.0	D	630	6.3
Coke	5,190	I	1,320	34.1	I	175	3.5
Metals and products	8,471	I	2,557	43.2	I	172	2.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	23,005	I	7,581	49.2	I	324	1.4
Waste and scrap materials	8,076	I	1,770	28.1	I	3	0.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	6,476	I	988	18.0	D	91	1.4
All other carloads	63,516	I	16,662	35.6	I	1,419	2.3
LCL traffic	265	I	130	96.3	I	77	41.0
Total Cars Loaded	396,583	I	96,478	32.1	I	8,916	2.3
Corresponding week of 1984	300,105						

	1985	1984	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (47 weeks)	17,729,773	18,490,866	D 4.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
46 Weeks ended November 16	788.7	824.3	D 4.3
Week ended November 23	18.2	14.3	I 27.5
47 Weeks cumulative	806.8	838.5	D 3.8

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